



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

*PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

February 1, 2007

The Honorable Ken Jacobsen  
Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation Committee Chair  
Washington State Senate  
Post Office Box 40446  
Olympia, Washington 98504-0446

Dear Senator Jacobsen:

As the recently appointed chair for the State Board of Health, I am writing to express the Board's support for SB 5778, also introduced in the House as HB 1928. SB 5778 is scheduled to be heard before your Senate Natural Resources, Ocean & Recreation Committee on February 2. This is a bill requested by the Department of Health to help clean up shellfish growing areas.

This Board has responsibility for developing rules for sanitary shellfish harvesting, recreational beaches, and on-site wastewater disposal systems. This bill would strengthen shellfish protection districts and help clean up marine waters degraded by non-point source pollution. Such cleanups would increase commercial and recreational shellfish harvesting and improve the safety of swimming and other water sports in these areas. It would also enhance the enforcement of the Board's rules for on-site sewage systems, which are contributors to non-point pollution when they fail.

Thank you for scheduling this bill for hearing and considering the public health benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Treuman Katz".

Treuman Katz, Chair  
Washington State Board of Health

cc: Senate Water, Energy & Telecommunications Committee Members  
Senator Karen Fraser  
Washington State Board of Health Members  
Ms. Christina Hulet, Governor's Executive Policy Office  
Mr. Brian Peyton, Department of Health  
Mr. Craig McLaughlin, Washington State Board of Health